

20010529.qrp v02_n204.qrl.20010529

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 19:03:12 EDT

From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: QRP-L digest 2204

QRP-L Digest 2204

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [99040] Re: Hollingsworth at Dayton.
by "Alan Fryer" <qrpdx@earthlink.net>
- 2) [99041] Headphone "Find" --- Maybe.....`
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- 3) [99042] 6 Meter CW etc. (verbose)
by "Chuck Carpenter" <w5usj@globeco.net>
- 4) [99043] My First Hoot Owl Sprint
by Al Scanandoah <k2zn@rochester.rr.com>
- 5) [99044] WTB: DSW-80 or DSW-30
by "Alan Fryer" <qrpdx@earthlink.net>
- 6) [99045] Re: more 6m NEWBIE Notes
by "blinn" <blinn@smgazette.com>
- 7) [99046] How can I change my email address?
by "Bob Shaw" <lycott@fox.nstn.ca>
- 8) [99047] Fw: Help please!
by "Alan Kaul" <alan.kaul@worldnet.att.net>
- 9) [99048] Balanced feedline from the shack (was "Where do I put it")
by "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
- 10) [99049] 6 Mtrs & PSK-31
by "Chuck Carpenter" <w5usj@globeco.net>
- 11) [99050] unsubscribe
by DonaldMeyerhoff@aol.com
- 12) [99051] Re: 6 Meter CW etc. (verbose)
by Curt Milton <wb8yyy@yahoo.com>
- 13) [99052] RE: WTCPT
by "Lofstead, Jerry" <Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com>
- 14) [99053] NEQRP SSB NET Tuesday 7:00PM EDST 7.285
by "Ronald A Pfeiffer" <Ronald_A_Pfeiffer@raytheon.com>
- 15) [99054] Re: more 6m NEWBIE Notes
by "Rod Cerkoney" <n0rc@hotmail.com>
- 16) [99055] ANT: How to trim a 20 meter Half Square?
by Gary Hanson <hansongr@uts.cc.utexas.edu>
- 17) [99056] USS Kidd QSO
by "Conant, Paul" <paul.conant@lmco.com>
- 18) [99057] RF AMP: MiniBoot Amp
by Gary Hanson <hansongr@uts.cc.utexas.edu>
- 19) [99058] Re: Class D amplifiers

- by "Lau, Zack, W1VT" <zlau@arrl.org>
- 20) [99059] FS: MFJ-9406 six meter SSB transceiver
by "AB0CD" <ab0cd@uswest.net>
- 21) [99060] QRPDUPE Users - A Question
by Brian Kassel <bkassel@dancris.com>
- 22) [99061] LDG Digital Watt Meter?
by Scott McCullough <mcwood@cornhusker.net>
- 23) [99062] OT: Yaesu FT-890
by Harris Keith E CONT CNIN <harris_k@crane.navy.mil>
- 24) [99063] Inverted WYE questions
by "Burke Jones" <Burke@howardandhelmer.com>
- 25) [99064] Re: Fw: Help please!
by Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
- 26) [99065] Mailing list for July QRP Quarterly
by Mark R Milburn <kq0i@juno.com>
- 27) [99066] RE: LDG Digital Watt Meter?
by "Newell, John O" <JNewell@goodwinprocter.com>
- 28) [99067] MI CW QRP Net, Tuesday, 29 May, 9:00 PM EDT, 3.535 MHz
by ed.kwik@delphiauto.com
- 29) [99068] Xtals for sale or trade
by "kw3u@warwick.net" <kw3u@warwick.net>
- 30) [99069] HB diode ring mixers
by "Brad Hernlem" <alihernlem@hotmail.com>
- 31) [99070] Cheap Solar Panels
by "Brian" <bmurrey@amexol.net>
- 32) [99071] RE: WTCPT
by "Brad Hernlem" <alihernlem@hotmail.com>
- 33) [99072] Grid Square Accuracy
by "Chuck Carpenter" <w5usj@globeco.net>
- 34) [99073] RE: Cheap Solar Panels
by "Lofstead, Jerry" <Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com>
- 35) [99074] Re: WTCPT
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
- 36) [99075] Re: Grid Square Accuracy
by "Tim Billingsley KD5CKP" <kd5ckp@yahoo.com>
- 37) [99076] RE: WTCPT
by "Lofstead, Jerry" <Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com>
- 38) [99077] Re: Grid Square Accuracy
by "Tim Billingsley KD5CKP" <kd5ckp@yahoo.com>
- 39) [99078] WTCPS - simple question
by "Tim Billingsley KD5CKP" <kd5ckp@yahoo.com>
- 40) [99079] RE: Inverted WYE questions
by David Ek <ekdave@earthlink.net>
- 41) [99080] Re: Grid Square Accuracy
by "Richard Brummer, K2JQ" <k2jq@bestweb.net>
- 42) [99081] Re: LDG Digital Watt Meter?
by Mike <mmorrow@companet.net>
- 43) [99082] Re: Grid Square Accuracy

- by "Chuck Carpenter" <w5usj@globeco.net>
- 44) [99083] Re: WTCPT
by Bob Nielsen <nielsen@oz.net>
- 45) [99084] RE: Sources for solar panels/cells
by "Lofstead, Jerry" <Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com>
- 46) [99085] Current rating of a banana plug?
by "Bill Acito" <w1pa@hotmail.com>
- 47) [99086] Re: WTCPS - simple question
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
- 48) [99087] RE: Current rating of a banana plug?
by "Lofstead, Jerry" <Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com>
- 49) [99088] Re: HB diode ring mixers
by dmaliniak@penton.com
- 50) [99089] RE: Current rating of a banana plug?
by "Kanalz, Karl" <Karl.Kanalz@allegiancetelecom.com>
- 51) [99090] MH101: Complete VFO measurements (so far) [Follow up]
by "Robert P. Okas" <vintage@best.com>
- 52) [99091] Re: HB diode ring mixers
by "Decaire, Philip J" <Philip.Decaire@PSS.Boeing.com>
- 53) [99092] Re: HB diode ring mixers
by "Lau, Zack, W1VT" <zlau@arrl.org>
- 54) [99093] OPERATING - USS Kidd on Memorial Day
by n5ib@juno.com
- 55) [99094] SMK success at last!
by "Delbert Long" <ad6we@hotmail.com>
- 56) [99095] Help on Length for a tuned dipole
by Gary Slagel <gdslagel@yahoo.com>
- 57) [99096] 2M Res Feed DP for Bike Mobile Op
by "Mark S. Adams, P.E." <msadams@acsu.buffalo.edu>
- 58) [99097] "Progressive Transceiver" Project
by Ed Kessler <edkess@pa.net>
- 59) [99098] Re: Grid Square Accuracy
by Larry Cahoon <lejek@erols.com>
- 60) [99099] Re: HB diode ring mixers
by "Leon Heller" <leon_heller@hotmail.com>
- 61) [99100] re: grid square accuracy
by "Delbert Long" <ad6we@hotmail.com>
- 62) [99101] Class D/E Website info posted.
by mike <kd0ar@alltel.net>

Date: Mon, 28 May 2001 19:02:55 -0400
From: "Alan Fryer" <qrpdx@earthlink.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99040] Re: Hollingsworth at Dayton.
Message-ID: <002801c0e7ca\$558d2f60\$99bc323f@hppav>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Let's put Hollingsworth in charge of low power communications in CA (60 Hz)
and get the flux out of the ether...

----- Original Message -----

From: "Bill Stietenroth" <k5zty@juno.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Monday, May 28, 2001 6:07 PM
Subject: Hollingsworth at Dayton.

>
>
> >From the ARRL Newsletter:
>
> Hollingsworth told the crowd that amateur enforcement complaints are way
> down. With tongue only somewhat in cheek, Hollingsworth said
> "California"
> topped his list of enforcement issues that keep him awake at night. "If
> it
> weren't for California, amateur enforcement would be a one-day-a-week
> job,"
> he said, "and we wouldn't need most of the rules."
>
> -----
>

Date: Mon, 28 May 2001 20:06:28 -0400
From: Richard Arland <rarland@earthlink.net>
To: QRP List <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [99041] Headphone "Find" --- Maybe.....`
Message-ID: <3B12E804.B64B26C0@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I was wandering through Circuit City today and strolled past their
headphone display. They have a number of "walkman-type" on sale so I
bought a pair of KOSS HP-6 phones for \$9.95, just to see how they worked
for ham use.

These are "digital ready"....whatever that means...

The thing I DO like about them is that the large 2.25" earpieces rotate 90 degrees and lay flat for storage. Just the ticket for use on the road with my K1 & K2 rigs. They don't take up a lot of room in the hard case and still have a nice earpiece that covers most of the ear. (I really don't like ear buds).

Side by side comparison with my RS Pro-35s shows them to be lacking in low frequency response. The Pro-35s sound great and the KOSS HP-6s sound "tinny", but for under \$10.... Maybe a small cap (2.2 or 3.3 uF) across the input might roll off the highs enough. I'll give it a shot and report back.

At any rate, if you need a pair of headphones and don't want to spend a mint, these might be what you need. A little work to tailor the audio response...who knows?

73 Rich K7SZ

Date: Mon, 28 May 2001 19:12:19 -0500
From: "Chuck Carpenter" <w5usj@globeco.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [99042] 6 Meter CW etc. (verbose)
Message-ID: <3.0.2.32.20010528191219.006bb3e0@mail.globeco.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

QRP-L VHFers,

For those of you who are just getting started with 6 meter capability, give CW QRP a try. When the band is open, you can do a lot with a minimum system. Over the past 3 Es seasons on 6, my QSO count has been very good running 10 W SSB and 5 W CW to a 4 el beam up about 30 ft. Many ops were running QRP power with TV antennas, 40 meter dipoles, long wires, simple 6 mtr dipoles, hamsticks, halos, squalos, j-poles and all manner of other radiators. I've made a few Qs while using a scanner discone antenna too.

Although there are many on 6 who have no interest in CW, there are also many who do. Speeds are often around 15 to 20 wpm too -- not many high-speed ops.

Frequencies where most CW is found during openings are from 50.090 to 50.1. Sometimes as low as 50.080 and often in the SSB frequencies from 50.125 up to 50.200 or so during strong openings. CW only is from 50.0 to 50.1 with US beacons from 50.060 to 50.080. International beacons are below 50.060.

The QRP CW calling frequency, 50.060, was set up many years ago before the present band plans were established. It's legal to operate in the beacon sub-bands but not considered a good idea.

I'd suggest 50.096 as the QRP CW calling frequency.

The DX window is centered around 50.110 from 50.1 to 50.125. You will often find DX stations with both CW and SSB in this frequency range. This window is intended for the DX stations to call and for US stations to listen. It's not a good idea to initiate a CQ here, but some do.

One of the VHF societies is advocating 50.2 as the US SSB calling frequency. Presently, the recognized US SSB calling frequency is 50.125 and 50.175 for the 6-Club International. The only *agreed upon* band plan is the one published by the ARRL. And then, agreement depends on who you talk to. A calling frequency for QRP SSB might be 50.136 -- the one presently published is too high in the band.

Remember, if you can hear beacons, give a call on CW. You might find the band is really open. Try scatter propagation in the early mornings too.

Chuck Carpenter, W5USJ, Point, Rains Co., TX - EM22cv, NETXQRP #1
ARCI #5422, QRP-L #1306, SOC #57, Six Club #201, SMIRK #6275
Zombie #749, RARA #3, NETXQRP Web Site <http://www.netxqrp.org>
[TMPS] Qs/130, States/40, DX/27, 3W to HF9V, March Key, Codeboy Keyer

Date: Mon, 28 May 2001 20:49:25 -0400
From: Al Scanandoah <k2zn@rochester.rr.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99043] My First Hoot Owl Sprint
Message-ID: <3B12F215.E6AC0DE@rochester.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

After spending two days scraping, sanding, and painting my son's bedroom, I was pretty beat by sprint time. However, the pot of coffee in the afternoon helped out a great deal!

Band conditions were brutal - the QRN on 40 was downright painful at times. All in all, it was great fun.

52 QSOs
31 SPCs
227 Q points

Omni V @ 1.5w

72 - A1, K2ZN

Date: Mon, 28 May 2001 21:08:56 -0400
From: "Alan Fryer" <qrpdx@earthlink.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99044] WTB: DSW-80 or DSW-30
Message-ID: <000901c0e7db\$f0e88c00\$66c1323f@hppav>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Looking for either, kit or built, board only or in enclosure OK. Have lots of QRP stuff to trade.

Alan, N3BJ
Bent Mountain, VA

Date: Mon, 28 May 2001 18:18:17 -0700
From: "blinn" <blinn@smgazette.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99045] Re: more 6m NEWBIE Notes
Message-ID: <003601c0e7dd\$3f5caa00\$aab8e5d8@blinn>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Most Grid Squares are listed on the QRZ callsign look-up... Look up your own callsign, click on "Detailed Info" and look for "Coordinates."

Bill - WA7TQK

-----Original Message-----
From: laura halliday <marsgal42@hotmail.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Date: Monday, May 28, 2001 2:48 PM
Subject: Re: more 6m NEWBIE Notes

>Date: Mon, 28 May 2001 21:51:32
>Mime-Version: 1.0
>Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed
>
>Rod NORC wrote:
>
>>(snip...)
>>If you don't have LAT/LON, you can use your city & state at:
>>
>><http://www.arrl.org/locate/locate.html>
>>
>>(If you don't have LAT/LON, time for a GPS RCVR, check out
>>the eTrex from Garmin)
>
>In much of North America, utility poles have a plaque on
>them that gives their location to the nearest minute. Look
>for numbers that look like latitude and longitude, with
>an extra 1 in front for west of 100 degrees. The pole out
>back at home says (among other things) "2259 4915".
>
>This system is being phased out, and if the utilities
>are underground, there are no poles... :-(
>
>Here in Canada, Radio Shack have had the Magellan GPS 310
>on sale for a ridiculously cheap price. Needless to say,
>I bought one. It's 2001, and these things are so cheap now
>there is little excuse not to have one if you really need
>to know where you are.
>
>Grid square <-> lat/lon conversion is covered in all the
>usual references.
>
>My home GPS is a surplus OEM unit (Trimble Palisade -
>one of the white mushroom jobs). At the moment I use it
>to set my PC's clock *very* accurately, but intend
>using the 1 PPS output as an oscillator reference.
>
>Laura Halliday VE7LDH "Que les nuages soient notre
>Grid: CN89mg pied a terre..."
>ICBM: 49 15.042 N 122 59.053 W - Hospital/Shafte
>

>Get Your Private, Free E-mail from MSN Hotmail at <http://www.hotmail.com>.
>
>

--

Date: Mon, 28 May 2001 21:40:45 -0400
From: "Bob Shaw" <lycott@fox.nstn.ca>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [99046] How can I change my email address?
Message-ID: <029901c0e7e0\$65b316a0\$0100a8c0@athlon>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Can anyone tell me how to change my email address for this list? I could unsubscribe and then subscribe using the new email address, but that could upset the qrp-1 numbers.

de Bob VE3SUY

Date: Mon, 28 May 2001 20:00:14 -0700
From: "Alan Kaul" <alan.kaul@worldnet.att.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99047] Fw: Help please!
Message-ID: <001401c0e7eb\$80310180\$9211500c@default>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

CAN ANYONE ASSIST???

----- Original Message -----
From: Bob Shaw <lycott@fox.nstn.ca>
To: <alan.kaul@att.net>
Sent: Sunday, May 27, 2001 17:05 PM
Subject: Help please!

> I selected you at random from qrp-1. As you recently posted a query, you
> probably are monitoring the list. I have a problem -- I changed email
> addresses, and I cannot seem to send any messages to qrp-1 directly
anymore,
> because it knows my old email address.
>

> Would you please put the following on the list for me? Thanks in advance.
>
> -----
>
> I wish to change my email address on qrp-l without affecting my qrp-l
> number. If I unsubscribe then subscribe under the new email address, I
> believe I will loose my qrp-l number. I cannot find how to effect this
> change.
>
> If anyone knows how, (or has suggestions on where to get information other
> than listserv@Lehigh.edu "help", please email me directly at
> ve3suy@rac.ca.
>
> Thank you.
>
> de Bob VE3SUY
>
>
>

Date: Mon, 28 May 2001 23:42:16 -0500
From: "Dan W. Dooley" <dandooley@pipeline.com>
To: "QRP List" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99048] Balanced feedline from the shack (was "Where do I put it")
Message-ID: <000d01c0e7f9\$bea018d0\$fd29aec7@dandooley>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I had some requests to provide a summary of private replies to the question I asked. That question was, in effect, how to run a balanced feed line (twinlead, open wire, ladder line) from a tuner located conveniently on the radio desk to the outside of the house and to the antenna when the feed line is going to pass near other station wiring behind the desk such as coax, power leads and other interconnecting cables. What potential affect will such routing have on the tuning and balance of such lines?

Here's a synopsis of the private comments and suggestions on my question. No particular order. I can't vouch for any of them. Some seem to be contradictory. I guess it simply proves that what may work (or not work) for one, may prove the opposite for someone else. So, as the shoe company add goes, "Just do it!"

1. Don't use ladder line (balanced line inside the shack). Use a 6:1

homebrew balun at the loop and feed it with 50 ohm coax.

2. Run ladder line straight up the wall of the shack (away from close proximity to other station wiring) using stand-offs and on through the attic to the outside.

3. Route the open wire (ladder line or other balanced line) as needed, even if it is close to other wiring. Still works ok. No problems.

4. Same as #3 but will likely have problems - radiation, inability to properly balance. Get RF in the shack.

5. Run coax to a balun (somewhere away from the equipment and wiring) and connect the balun to open wire to the antenna.

6. Ladder line from the antenna to a 1:1 current balun outside the shack to a 13 ft. run of RG213 to the tuner in the shack. (Not sure where the idea of the "13 ft. run" came from.)

7. Shielded balanced feed line from the tuner to outside. This shielded balanced line is made up of a pair of coax lines with the braids shorted together at each end. Grounded at the tuner end only.

Dan W. Dooley WB5TKA Bedford, Texas EM12ku

e-mail to: dandoooley@pipeline.com

Web site: <http://www.qsl.net/wb9tka>

SOC #198, FPQRP # -104

May Goddes love blest ye alle

"Ancient Pistol, I do partly understand your meaning."

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 05:06:58 -0500

From: "Chuck Carpenter" <w5usj@globeco.net>

To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [99049] 6 Mtrs & PSK-31

Message-ID: <3.0.2.32.20010529050658.00812100@mail.globeco.net>

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

6 Mtr QRP-Lers,

Last evening, was listening for beacons. Heard one at 50.073 from EL96 (Florida) so tried a CW call at 50.1 and QSOed with a station in EL96

(single hop). He asked about the PSK frequency on 6, which is 50.290. He QSYed up there. I loaded DigiPan and did the same. There were several stations around the frequency with good strong signals for a while. Made my first PSK-31 QSO on 6 meters. Neat stuff!

Remember to keep your initial exchanges short because the band is likely to change quickly. The usual first exchange is RST and Grid Square. Do the Op name and other info on subsequent exchanges. If the band is real strong, you can rag chew after that.

Chuck Carpenter, W5USJ, Point, Rains Co., TX - EM22cv, NETXQRP #1
ARCI #5422, QRP-L #1306, SOC #57, Six Club #201, SMIRK #6275
Zombie #759, RARA #3, Visit NETXQRP Web Site: <http://www.netxqrp.org>
[TMPS] Qs/131, States/40, DX /27, 3W to HF9V, Marsh Key, Codeboy Keyer

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 07:10:19 EDT
From: DonaldMeyerhoff@aol.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [99050] unsubscribe
Message-ID: <f8.a9e9505.2844dd9b@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 05:24:38 -0700 (PDT)
From: Curt Milton <wb8yyy@yahoo.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99051] Re: 6 Meter CW etc. (verbose)
Message-ID: <20010529122438.98252.qmail@web9605.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Six meters has been hopping with action! yes much of it is SSB, but CW comes in handy too. made my first coast-to-coast "double hop" E-skip QSO using CW. my station is a barefoot TT 1208 transverter (rated at 8 watts, probably less with coax loss and a conservative drive level) and a homebrew 2 element quad. i suspect i could have made it with SSB but for the pile-ups - hence CW comes in handy again. another CW QSO was with a new single hop grid under marginal conditions.

Put your gear to use on 6m, and if you don't have 6
consider this transverter from TenTec.

curt wb8yyy

Do You Yahoo!?

Yahoo! Auctions - buy the things you want at great prices
<http://auctions.yahoo.com/>

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 08:50:40 -0400
From: "Lofstead, Jerry" <Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99052] RE: WTCPT
Message-ID: <078F21595FA7D411B87B00805FA728E64A47CC@atlexc02ntms.h boc.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

RS would never BAIT & SWITCH!! no not Radio Shack! Hummmm, have had that
tactic show up here in town at the RS.com store in Atlanta. Tandy should
have stayed with leather where they excel.

Jerry
W3CDE

-----Original Message-----

From: George, W5YR [mailto:w5yr@att.net]
Sent: Thursday, May 24, 2001 7:26 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: WTCPT

Radio Shack is supposed to have the WTCPT soldering station on sale today
for \$89.99.

I called the 800 number and was told that it was out of stock and could not
be back-ordered. In fact, the lady said that it was no longer available and
inplied that the factory was no longer in business.

I think something is fishy here - has anyone managed to buy a WTCPT from RS
at the sale price - or at any price?

Anyone know of a good discounted source for this unit? WASSCO is asking
\$135 which is a little steep compared to the RS catalog price of \$99.99.

Of course, if you don't have them, you can price them pretty low! <:}

--

72/73, George W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas QRP-L 1373 NETXQRP 6

Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13qe
Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 55th year and it just keeps getting better!
Icom IC-756PRO #02121 Kachina #91900556 IC-765 #02437

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 09:01:31 -0400
From: "Ronald A Pfeiffer" <Ronald_A_Pfeiffer@raytheon.com>
To: neqrp@jona1.net, qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [99053] NEQRP SSB NET Tuesday 7:00PM EDST 7.285
Message-ID: <0FED93B12B.E324A9EF-0N85256A46.0054A2BB@and.us.ray.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Well I was sick last week and I am still not 100% but
I will give it a try!

Band has been noisy! Look around 7.280 - 7.290

You all please come back now!

Your net control is
N1ZSW Ron Worcester ,MA OMNI VI windom in attic

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 07:04:26 -0600
From: "Rod Cerkoney" <n0rc@hotmail.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99054] Re: more 6m NEWBIE Notes
Message-ID: <0E15iixjnzi95HfqR770000847e@hotmail.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Folks,

An even easier way to figure out your grid square--a GPS RCVR if you
have one.

I discovered that my Garmin eTrex can be switched into "Maidenhead Coordinates" mode. This provides a direct readout of your Grid Square. Perfect for portable/mobile operations. I'll bet other GPS RCVRS have a Maidenhead setting as well.

More info about the eTrex can be found here:

<http://www.garmin.com/products/etrex/>

They are small, inexpensive and work quite well. It's small size lends itself to "creative uses", I use mine for a bike speed/od-o-meter (it even has an available handle bar clip option!).

73, Rod N0RC
Ft Collins, CO

SuperFest 2001 14-Jul-2001

<http://www.qsl.net/n0rc/hamfest/hamfest.html>

BE THERE!

----- Original Message -----

From: "Rod Cerkoney" <n0rc@hotmail.com>

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Monday, May 28, 2001 1:31 PM

Subject: more 6m NEWBIE Notes

> Folks,

>

> In the last message I mentioned the importance of grid squares,
> they're easy to figure out. Go to the ARRL website at:

>

> <http://www.arrl.org/locate/grid.html>

>

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 08:20:50 -0500

From: Gary Hanson <hansongr@uts.cc.utexas.edu>

To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu

Subject: [99055] ANT: How to trim a 20 meter Half Square?

Message-ID: <3B13A232.9CFB7005@uts.cc.utexas.edu>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi gang,

About two weeks ago I installed a 20 meter half square. I cut it to formula using two 1/4 wave vertical sections connected by a 1/2 half wave horizontal section and it's up about 25 feet in the air. I'm using 300 ohm twinlead to feed via a SuperTee tuner. Both vertical legs are hidden in tree branches and there are other trees and buildings around so I didn't expect it to be resonant at the formula where I cut it. It loads fine and out of my first dozen contacts, 11 of them were 569 or higher reports so I'm pleased with it as it stands. BUT, out of curiosity, I checked the resonant point at the transmitter end of the feedline and found it to be about 12.8 MHz. I know I should check it at the antenna feedpoint, but getting up there just wasn't feasible :-)

My question is: IF my antenna really was resonant at 12.8 MHz at the antenna feedpoint and I wanted to trim it to resonance at 14.060 where would I start? Should I trim the vertical sections? The horizontal section? All three?

After 4 decades of hammin' my interest in raising and lowering the antenna 27 times to get it cut to resonance is pretty low. Climbing that ladder to get on top of the house just isn't as much fun as it used to be. Nevertheless, my curiosity is getting the best of me. I know how to trim dipoles and delta loops, but not a half square. Any suggestions?

Thanks for the help.

Gary, KJ5VW

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 07:13:33 -0600
From: "Conant, Paul" <paul.conant@lmco.com>
To: "Qrp-L (Post To List) (E-mail)" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, "'n5ib@juno.com'" <n5ib@juno.com>
Subject: [99056] USS Kidd QSO
Message-ID: <675067CF647BD4118DEA00508BE32AB47EAB9A@emss02m09.ems.lmco.com>
Content-return: allowed
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT

It was neat to work Jim on the flying bridge of the USS Kidd yesterday. 30-meters was up and down quite a bit. I first heard his K2 at about S3, but it was S8 by the time we finished. In addition to the USS Kidd, I've worked the USS Cod and the Queen Mary. Jim, how did the day go on your end?

Paul, WQ5X

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 08:26:35 -0500
From: Gary Hanson <hansongr@uts.cc.utexas.edu>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [99057] RF AMP: MiniBoot Amp
Message-ID: <3B13A38B.6889C9D1@uts.cc.utexas.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi gang,

I recently built the MiniBoot RF amp and it works great on 20 meters when I drive it with one watt from my EMTECH NW20. Here's my question: I built it thinking I could use with my White Mountain 20 on SSB. Then, after I built it, I remembered that SSB needs a linear amp and I'm not a good enough engineer to tell what class the MiniBoot amp is running by looking at the schematic. Since it was originally designed for CW, I'm guessing it is running in class C. Am I right in assuming that this amp won't work with the SSB rig? Anyone know what class amp the MiniBoot is running???

Thanks for the info,

Gary, KJ5VW

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 09:59:11 -0400
From: "Lau, Zack, W1VT" <zlau@arrl.org>
To: "'qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99058] Re: Class D amplifiers
Message-ID: <125490A005E3D3118C9C00805FC743CC016B9E94@KAHLESS>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Mike Masterson WN2A Three Fine Mice--MOuSeFET CW Transmitters
Dec 1986 QST and QRP classics shows a simple drive circuit--Zack W1VT

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 07:43:37 -0600

From: "AB0CD" <ab0cd@uswest.net>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@Lehigh.edu>
Subject: [99059] FS: MFJ-9406 six meter SSB transceiver
Message-ID: <002701c0e845\$5d4eb2c0\$a29ca0d8@dnvr.uswest.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

FS: MFJ-9406 six meter SSB transceiver. SIX METERS IS HOT! Full SSB/CW coverage: 50.0 - 50.3 MHz. 10 Watts PEP output. MFJ's ConstantCurrent speech processing. Great receiver: Crystal-mixed single conversion superhet with low-noise preamp. Easy to operate: Vernier reduction drive S-Meter. Low power drain: External amplifier jack provides a key line for activating 6 Meter amplifiers. Package includes mic, original manual. (optional CW module available from MFJ), and shipping to CONUS. PRICE: \$175. AB0CD@ARRL.NET

72 Dick AB0CD..

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 08:02:00 -0700
From: Brian Kassel <bkassel@dancris.com>
To: QRP-L <QRP-L@lehigh.edu>, azqrp <azqrp@extremezone.com>
Subject: [99060] QRPDUPPE Users - A Question
Message-ID: <3B13B9E8.F22F489C@dancris.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi QRPDUPPE Users:

I have a question. Has anyone out there had any problems running QRPDUPPE under Windows ME? I have been trying to assist a gentleman who is unable to get his serial port to send CW above a very low speed. He has tried shutting down all other applications, but to no avail. Here is his situation in his own words:

"Now my problem is the keyer is way too slow. I have tried changing the calibration but it makes very little difference, even if I put in numbers that are considerably off the 950 suggested for a 650mhz machine. I am using a 566mhz machine with Windows ME. Numbers as low as 1 or as high as 10,000

don't seem to make a lot of difference. Ideas?

Timing is fine with the WR9R Field Day logging program."

Since I am not aware of any low speed type of problems with QRPDUPE, except in the case of very slow 386 machines, I'm out of ideas at this point. My only suspicion is that the problem has to do with Windows ME.

We both sure would appreciate any help on this.

Brian K7RE

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 10:02:01 -0500
From: Scott McCullough <mcwood@cornhusker.net>
To: <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [99061] LDG Digital Watt Meter?
Message-ID: <200105291502.KAA06052@go.bigred.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Hi,

I'm looking at the LDG Digital Watt Meter and wondering if anyone= has and experience/comments. It looks neat but how accurate and= reliable is it? I would like to hear the thoughts of any current= owners.

Thanks, 8^)

Scott ~ NB0W
nb0w@qsl.net

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 10:03:10 -0500
From: Harris Keith E CONT CNIN <harris_k@crane.navy.mil>
To: "'qrp-1@lehigh.edu'" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [99062] OT: Yaesu FT-890
Message-ID: <4F76B3D4A76AD111803B00A0C9893D9C06ED8D7E@cninexchsrv05>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

Gang,

I was fortunate to be the recipient of a Yaesu FT-890 over the weekend. I was wondering if anyone could enlighten me as to the approximate age of this rig and where it fits into the Yaesu family tree. I also was given a power supply, an MFJ Versa Tuner II, an Alpha Delta DX-CC antenna, a G5RV antenna, a home grown dipole and gobs of coax. I guess I've been a good boy and Christmas came early this year. Please reply directly so as not to clog up the reflector. Thanks.

73 de N9KH

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 09:54:55 -0500
From: "Burke Jones" <Burke@howardandhelmer.com>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99063] Inverted WYE questions
Message-ID: <01a501c0e84f\$52f93ca0\$3064a8c0@burke>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I am constructing my first antenna - EVER - and I have a couple of really simple questions. I have been out of radio for many years and I have forgotten all this stuff.

I am going to build a inverted wye antenna for portable operation. I need something that does not need a tuner, because I do not have a tuner. Does this type of antenna need a tuner or can it just be trimmed for min. swr and used? Can you just feed it with coax (first choice because I have some)? or do you need to use twin-lead?

Thanks for all the help! I am really enjoying the group.

Burke Jones
N0HYD

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 09:15:55 -0600 (CST)
From: Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
To: Alan Kaul <alan.kaul@worldnet.att.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99064] Re: Fw: Help please!
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0105290915390.25547-100000@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

You retain your QRP-L number for life.

..72/73 - Bruce (VE5RC+VE5QRP) QRP-C#1 QRP-L#886 ARCI#9683 Zombie#272
K2#2032 A-1 Operator Club - 10/10# 944 - SOC #11 & #12 - Whiner#10 -
"QRP! How sweet it is!" oo#148 "I am da man wit "DAH" paddle!"

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 06:24:22 -0500
From: Mark R Milburn <kq0i@juno.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [99065] Mailing list for July QRP Quarterly
Message-ID: <20010529.101917.-329691.0.KQ0I@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The mailing list for the July QQ is just about ready to go to the printer/printer folks. If your subscription ran out with the April issue and you haven't renewed, you need to get your renewal in this week or you won't be on that list. See <http://qrparci.org> for renewal information of you have forgotten it.

72 - Mark, KQ0I
Secretary/Treasurer QRP ARCI #2667

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/tagj>.

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 11:42:20 -0400
From: "Newell, John O" <JNewell@goodwinprocter.com>
To: "'mcwood@cornhusker.net'" <mcwood@cornhusker.net>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [99066] RE: LDG Digital Watt Meter?
Message-ID: <C3345B3FCEEED2119FAA0008C739ABBD036F3136@bosmsg2.gph.com>

> I'm looking at the LDG Digital Watt Meter

I've been using one for a couple of months and like it quite well. I have the HF qrp, HF "mid range" (up to 100w), and VHF sensors. I had it calibrated by LDG, which means :-(that I bought it pre-assembled. Unfortunately, I don't have a Bird lying around to check it against. (I notice that there is now a "qro" sensor for HF -- up to more than 1kW.)

I had one anomaly after installing it in-line -- very high swr on 40m. After some discussion with the (very helpful) people at LDG, I solved the problem by using a longer patch cord between the rig and the sensor. Neither LDG nor I had any technical explanation for this -- I tried the longer patch cord both coiled and spread out, thinking maybe I was getting a choke effect from the coiled cord that affected swr, but this made no noticeable difference.

Overall, it is a very convenient and cost-effective station tool and except as noted above I've had not problems of any kind, but I can't comment on your accuracy question.

72
John Newell
KB1FPM

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reply e-mail and delete this message. Thank you.

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 12:16:11 -0400
From: ed.kwik@delphiauto.com
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [99067] MI CW QRP Net, Tuesday, 29 May, 9:00 PM EDT, 3.535 MHz
Message-ID: <05256A5B.005969DB.00@notes.delphiauto.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Disposition: inline

The Michigan QRP net meets each Tuesday night at 9:00 PM Eastern time on 3.535 MHz. Last week conditions were fair and better than I expected.

N8UN	Ed	East Jordan, MI	569
KI3R	Tom	Port Vue, PA	579
WB8UUJ	Tom	Flushing, MI	339
AA1MY	Seab	Bethel, ME	339
WB8CIN	Mike	Jackson, MI	589
K1CL	Chuck	Chelmsford, MA	339
WK8S	Pete	Waterford, MI	599

Both Chuck and Pete checked in but did not respond when called. Seems like the storms from last week are finally moving out. I did not play in the WPX contest much. Ran a 1/2 marathon Saturday so I went to bed early Friday night. Got up 4:30 Saturday morning to do the run and got back home late in the afternoon and just too pooped to QRP. Got on Sunday afternoon and planed to hang in to the end of the contest. Last few hours of a big contest are very easy picking's cuz the big guns seem to hear QRP very well when nobody is answering the CQ's. Only did an hour or so and work Malta for a new country. Just could not get into it and wanted to save some energy for the Hoot Owl. Started the Hoot Owl on 20 with my NC20. Band was not great and the QSB was very heavy. Had to fix the keyer in the NC20 after the first hour. I used a Radio Shack IC socket for the AFA chip and every once in a while I need to reseal the IC. Going to try to tin the IC leads next time. After a couple of hours I seemed to work all of the stations I could so I QRTed about 0130. On Monday I wanted to make a good showing the MI holiday sprint. The WX cleared early in the day and went out with the family for a picnic. Took the opportunity to scout the Indian Springs park for possible FD sites. Lots of open fields but no tall trees. Got back in plenty of time but in just a few minutes it went from sun to very dark clouds. I could hear some thunder so I killed time cleaning the shack waiting for the storm to pass. We got a very close lighting strike. I always have my antennas disconnected from all my rigs. I did not have my 2 meter vertical cable grounded. It was just laying on the cement floor. I heard a snap when it

arced. The XYL and kids were really spooked so I went up stairs to settle them down. Just about the time I had convinced them that with a close call / lighting never strikes the same place twice etc. that there was nothing to worry about, we had another real close one. You could feel the charge and smell the ozone. The lights flickered a little and the thunder clap shook the house but no damage. Do not think it hit anything on the ground but maybe it hit the lake next to us. The storm left as quick as it came. I got on but 20 had heavy QSB and 40 had too much QRN. I was up to about 10 QSOs before the thunder started to come back. I had to QRT again This time the storm lasted several hours so I never got back on. Oh well. Next time. 73's

Ed AB8DF

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 12:36:52 -0400
From: "kw3u@warwick.net" <kw3u@warwick.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99068] Xtals for sale or trade
Message-ID: <3B13D024.9BA5B1C1@warwick.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi all;

Going through my collection of acquisitions from the last bunch of hamfests and ebay frenzy's I have some ft-243's excess here. Offering them here first at \$4 each plus little help shipping. the freq's are as follow's.

7065
7075
7079
7097
7087
7068
7067
7195
7176
7284

3906
3896
3855
3893

of course will trade for cw 80/40 freqs rigs here are drake 2nt and
johnson adventurer for when I feel the need to drop anchor.
tnx Jim kw3u

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 16:51:36
From: "Brad Hernlem" <alihernlem@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [99069] HB diode ring mixers
Message-ID: <F648ZMGLoU2g0HpM2yq0000ed95@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Anybody here roll their own diode ring mixers? Some while back I picked up some nice little schottky diode rings from Baggie Bob (R) which are surface mountable little bugs with a ring of apparently nicely matched low forward voltage drop diodes encapsulated therein. Anyway, after considering various layouts on a board I realized that I could wire up everything on a little DIP header.

Getting down to my question(s), how does one go about designing the toroid transformers? i.e. how many turns, what is the relevance of the inherent inductance of the windings, and how does one know what termination impedance these things like to see? I've got some -37 cores of unknown composition which read an inductance of 120 uH with only 4 turns and I have some tiny -25 cores (again of unknown composition) which give 16 uH with 16 turns. According to what I have read, the lower frequency limitation of the mixer is set by the ferrite (the higher the inductance with fewer turns the lower the low freq limit, no?) and the upper frequency limitation is set by the inter-winding distributed capacitances. OK, but now how is the termination impedance determined? Also, does that lower freq limit apply to the IF port, too (I am thinking of the case where the mixer is used as a product detector)?

Those tiny cores, BTW, were some wierd ferrite "beads" on a modem board.

Brad

Get your FREE download of MSN Explorer at <http://explorer.msn.com>

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 12:58:35 -0400

From: "Brian" <bmmurray@amexol.net>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, "pigs" <fpqrp-l@mpna.com>
Subject: [99070] Cheap Solar Panels
Message-ID: <001801c0e860\$9a1cd860\$3d05080a@cincom.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ran across these on the web...

I have never done biz with them...but they look pretty interesting.

<http://www.industrialliquidators.com/wesell/solarpanel.html>

```
=====
KB9BVN/QRP - New Whiteland IN - EM69WN
QRP-ARCI #10223 QRP-L #1540 FIST #5695
FISTS CC #764 - Proud Member ARRL
TEN TEC SCOUT @ 5W or NORCAL 40A @ 1.3W
INTO INFAMOUS AF4PS ATTIC DIPOLE
SOC #400 AND FLYING PIGS QRP #-57
=====
```

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 17:02:56
From: "Brad Hernlem" <alihernlem@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [99071] RE: WTCPT
Message-ID: <F272pNevAqt01U8wN8u0000c27e@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

On the subject of soldering stations, I have a few questions:

1 - Anyone use a Xytronic station? What are your thoughts in comparison to the Weller WTCPT or WES50? I have used the Xytronic and find it very easy to manipulate but don't have any experience with the Weller stations. I was suckered by Radio Shack's digital station special and am still tearing out my hair. I need something that works well.

2 - The biggest problem with that "special" station that I have, apart from the iron being too long and unwieldy, is that the tips don't wet worth a darn. They look to be simply straight shank tips with a 3/16" dia. Could one

of you Weller afficianados tell me whether Weller tips meet that description? At the very least I could perhaps solve my tip problem.

Brad

From: Lofstead, Jerry (Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com)

RS would never BAIT & SWITCH!! no not Radio Shack! Hummmm, have had that tactic show up here in town at the RS.com store in Atlanta. Tandy should have stayed with leather where they excel.

Jerry
W3CDE

...

Get your FREE download of MSN Explorer at <http://explorer.msn.com>

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 12:09:16 -0500
From: "Chuck Carpenter" <w5usj@globeco.net>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [99072] Grid Square Accuracy
Message-ID: <3.0.2.32.20010529120916.00813970@mail.globeco.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

6 Mtr QRP-Lers,

The grid square you find from QRZ and other such sources may not be the one your QTH is in.

The source for many grid square entries is often your local post office. When your QTH and the Post Office are close to grid borders, you could be in different grids. Especially if you and the post office are several miles apart. Not too important unless you are contesting or working on V/UHF awards.

Another situation is when you are in a 4-corners location or close to the boundary between two grids. Also, you may want to use your 6-digit grid and subgrid for more accurate location (mine is EM22cv). It is very unlikely that you and the post office will be in the same subgrid.

Use of topographical maps to determining your coordinates is often acceptable in lieu of GPS equipment availability. Then update your records on QRZ and

such with the correct coordinates for your QTH.

Chuck Carpenter, W5USJ, Point, Rains Co., TX - EM22cv, NETXQRP #1
ARCI #5422, QRP-L #1306, SOC #57, Six Club #201, SMIRK #6275
Zombie #759, RARA #3, Visit NETXQRP Web Site: <http://www.netxqrp.org>
[TPMS] Qs/131, States/40, DX /27, 3W to HF9V, Marsh Key, Codeboy Keyer

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 13:11:29 -0400
From: "Lofstead, Jerry" <Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99073] RE: Cheap Solar Panels
Message-ID: <078F21595FA7D411B87B00805FA728E64A47DB@atlexc02ntms.hboc.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"

Brian,

A good price for the panel, However, you would need to build a frame and seal it in, with glass or the like, to make it weather tite.

Jerry L.
W3CDE

-----Original Message-----
From: Brian [mailto:bmurrey@amexol.net]
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2001 12:59 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Cheap Solar Panels

Ran across these on the web...

I have never done biz with them...but they look pretty interesting.

<http://www.industrialliquidators.com/wesell/solarpanel.html>

=====
KB9BVN/QRP - New Whiteland IN - EM69WN
QRP-ARCI #10223 QRP-L #1540 FIST #5695
FISTS CC #764 - Proud Member ARRL
TEN TEC SCOUT @ 5W or NORCAL 40A @ 1.3W
INTO INFAMOUS AF4PS ATTIC DIPOLE

SOC #400 AND FLYING PIGS QRP #-57

=====

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 13:15:51 -0400
From: "Mike Yetzko" <myetzko@insydesw.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99074] Re: WTCPT
Message-ID: <004701c0e863\$05422080\$6b01a8c0@INSYDENT>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

> From: Lofstead, Jerry (Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com)
>
> RS would never BAIT & SWITCH!! no not Radio Shack! Hummmm, have
> had that tactic show up here in town at the RS.com store in Atlanta.
> Tandy should have stayed with leather where they excel.
>
> Jerry
> W3CDE

I'm sorry, but if the story is pulling that on you, then I have to ask
why in
the world you a) put up with it, and b) ever went back?

If they pull that on me, I just point to the policy of similar savings,
and
if I'm matching a 'price point', any percentage offer is "unacceptable".
I wanted a certain type of item at 'that price', and you'd be surprised
at how much leeway they can have.

If a store manager won't budge, as for the name, and direct phone number
of the district manager. If he won't give it, then call the 800 number
right
away and tell them they you were refused.

Radio Shack as a company won't put up with this garbage. Oh, they will
pull tricks, but you can be they are 'covered' when they do. The local
store managers won't have the coverage.

If you don't get satisfied, work up the chain until you are.

I personally am not adverse to going all the way to a CEO when I feel wronged and then 'hung out' to dry. Try that instead of a generic bad mouth of the company.

Mike

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 12:18:45 -0500
From: "Tim Billingsley KD5CKP" <kd5ckp@yahoo.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [99075] Re: Grid Square Accuracy
Message-ID: <009401c0e863\$6c22cc00\$56552126@kd5ckpp2>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

If you do not have access to a GPS and are familiar with the lay of the land around you I recommend you start here. enter your zip and start moving around until you find your location. The Lat/Lon is displayed at the bottom of the map.

Tim Billingsley KD5CKP
Home - <http://www.qsl.net/kd5ckp/>
NMECC - <http://www.qsl.net/nmecc/>
MS ARRL - <http://www.arrlmiss.org/>
OBARC - <http://www.qsl.net/obarc/>
CARA - <http://www.qsl.net/w5gwd/>

Do You Yahoo!?
Get your free @yahoo.com address at <http://mail.yahoo.com>

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 13:17:12 -0400
From: "Lofstead, Jerry" <Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99076] RE: WTCPT
Message-ID: <078F21595FA7D411B87B00805FA728E64A47DC@atlexc02ntms.hboc.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Mike,

Well, I go to the QRP meetings in the store but buy very little else. There has been some management problems at the store which Mike, K04W0X has fed back to "the home office"...

JL

-----Original Message-----

From: Mike Yetsko [mailto:myetsko@insydesw.com]

Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2001 1:16 PM

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion

Subject: Re: WTCPT

> From: Lofstead, Jerry (Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com)

>

> RS would never BAIT & SWITCH!! no not Radio Shack! Hummmm, have
> had that tactic show up here in town at the RS.com store in Atlanta.
> Tandy should have stayed with leather where they excel.

>

> Jerry

> W3CDE

I'm sorry, but if the story is pulling that on you, then I have to ask why in the world you a) put up with it, and b) ever went back?

If they pull that on me, I just point to the policy of similar savings, and if I'm matching a 'price point', any percentage offer is "unacceptable". I wanted a certain type of item at 'that price', and you'd be surprised at how much leeway they can have.

If a store manager won't budge, as for the name, and direct phone number of the district manager. If he won't give it, then call the 800 number right away and tell them they you were refused.

Radio Shack as a company won't put up with this garbage. Oh, they will pull tricks, but you can be they are 'covered' when they do. The local store managers won't have the coverage.

If you don't get satisfied, work up the chain until you are.

I personally am not adverse to going all the way to a CEO when I feel wronged and then 'hung out' to dry. Try that instead of a generic bad mouth of the company.

Mike

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 12:20:50 -0500
From: "Tim Billingsley KD5CKP" <kd5ckp@yahoo.com>
To: "Tim Billingsley KD5CKP" <kd5ckp@yahoo.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [99077] Re: Grid Square Accuracy
Message-ID: <009e01c0e863\$b6737480\$56552126@kd5ckpp2>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

helps if you include the link Hi!!

<http://tiger.census.gov/cgi-bin/mapbrowse-tbl/>

> If you do not have access to a GPS and are familiar with the lay
> of
> the land around you I recommend you start here. enter your zip and
> start moving around until you find your location. The Lat/Lon is
> displayed at the bottom of the map.

>
>
> Tim Billingsley KD5CKP
> Home - <http://www.qsl.net/kd5ckp/>
> NMECC - <http://www.qsl.net/nmecc/>
> MS ARRL - <http://www.arrlmiss.org/>
> OBARC - <http://www.qsl.net/obarc/>
> CARA - <http://www.qsl.net/w5gwd/>
>

Do You Yahoo!?

Get your free @yahoo.com address at <http://mail.yahoo.com>

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 12:30:24 -0500
From: "Tim Billingsley KD5CKP" <kd5ckp@yahoo.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [99078] WTCPS - simple question
Message-ID: <00b701c0e865\$0cf508e0\$56552126@kd5ckpp2>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Where is a good source for tips for the WTCPS?

My local RS says they no longer carry them

Do You Yahoo!?

Get your free @yahoo.com address at <http://mail.yahoo.com>

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 13:33:59 -0400 (EDT)
From: David Ek <ekdave@earthlink.net>
To: Burke@howardandhelmer.com
Cc: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [99079] RE: Inverted WYE questions
Message-ID: <385160264.991157639453.JavaMail.root@web621-wrb.mail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Burke,

You can build an inverted WYE which doesn't need a tuner. Cut each of the three legs to be a little longer than a quarter-wavelength. Connect the leg which goes up to the center of the coax, and connect the other two legs to the coax braid. Then trim the three legs for minimum SWR on the band you want to use the antenna on.

You should feed with coax and not twinlead--with twinlead, you'll need a matching network (i.e. tuner) because its characteristic impedance is not

close to 50 ohms. Note also that this antenna will only be suitable for use on the band for which you trimmed it for minimum SWR.

I have built an antenna like this for 20m for portable use and had no trouble trimming it to minimum SWR. You'll want to make sure that you put it up the same way every time you use it, because the geometry will affect the SWR.

73 de Dave AB0GO

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 14:03:32 -0400
From: "Richard Brummer, K2JQ" <k2jq@bestweb.net>
To: <w5usj@globeco.net>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99080] Re: Grid Square Accuracy
Message-ID: <003c01c0e869\$ad935d20\$0f01b3d8@obvious>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

>The grid square you find from QRZ and other such sources may not be the one
>your QTH is in.

>

>The source for many grid square entries is often your local post office.

The lat/long coordinates provided by QRZ.com and WM7D.net appear to be those of your local post office. My coordinates, those of another ham down the block, as well as one seven miles away, all in the same zip code, were identical.

Using Buckmaster, all three sets of coordinates differed.

I have yet to compare the Buckmaster coordinates against my GPS.

73,
Dick K2JQ

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 13:22:43 -0500

From: Mike <mmorrow@companet.net>
To: mcwood@cornhusker.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99081] Re: LDG Digital Watt Meter?
Message-ID: <3B13E8F3.13E2@companet.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Scott McCullough wrote:

> I'm looking at the LDG Digital Watt Meter and wondering if anyone
> has and experience/comments. It looks neat but how accurate and
> reliable is it? I would like to hear the thoughts of any current
> owners.

Scott,

My experiences with the LDG-4 and LDG customer support has been mixed. The comments I make below are based on the LDG website and the technical info provided with the LDG-4 as of July 2000. It is to be hoped that LDG has made some improvements since then.

The LDG-4, from a hardware standpoint, seems OK. It accepts up to four inputs from separate coaxial power transducers. Two such transducers were supplied with my LDG-4, one marked "HF/QRP sensor 1", the other "VHF sensor 2." Each transducer is calibrated by adjustments in the DISPLAY unit (not in the transducer unit itself), so a transducer from LDG marked "VHF sensor 2" MUST be plugged into display unit input jack number 2, and MUST be used only for VHF. There are calibration adjustments required for each of the four input channels.

A menu allows you to select which channel is displayed. A menu also allows each input channel to be set for sensor type and range. Available ranges are:

- HH=HF 150 watts
- HL=HF 15 watts
- VH=VHF 150 watts
- UH=UHF 150 watts.

The HF 150 watt sensor is the same as the HF 15 watt sensor. Only the settings of the calibration pots in the display unit differ.

I couldn't tell from the info supplied if the VHF sensor is the same type sensor as the UHF sensor.

Ideally, one could have the channel input circuits in the display unit

calibrated as follows:

Sensor 1 Input: Cal for HF 150 watts.

Sensor 2 Input: Cal for HF 15 watts.

(Swap the same sensor between input 1 or 2 to get different full scale sensitivity.)

Sensor 3 Input: Cal for VHF 150 watts.

Now here's the bad part. LDG does NOT supply the main unit calibrated in this manner. My unit came from LDG with:

Channel 1 input calibrated for HF 150 watts

Channel 2 input calibrated for VHF 150 watts.

Channel 3 input NOT calibrated for anything.

Channel 4 input NOT calibrated for anything.

There was NO information on the LDG web site or in the technical info provided with the product that clearly spells out the sensor-type/range versus input calibration relationship.

I had expected that the sensor marked "HF/QRP sensor 1" would have been calibrated for QRP. Thus, I used the menu to select channel 1 to the 15 watt scale and found the indication to be wildly inaccurate. LDG Customer "Support" said that the "QRP" marking only meant that the sensor *could* be used on QRP, but that the factory did not supply the main unit calibrated for QRP unless the customer asked for it at the time of purchase. When I asked why LDG didn't just go ahead and calibrate one of the unused input channels for QRP, I was told rather flippantly that LDG wouldn't presume to know what a customer wanted. In other words, they felt that it was better to supply a unit with two of the four input channels uncalibrated, rather than calibrate one of the input channels for HF 150 watts and another for HF 15 watts so that the single supplied HF transducer could be used for either purpose.

There was NO information on the LDG website that states that QRP calibration must be requested at time of order.

The technical information supplied with the unit

(1) Did NOT clearly indicate that the HF sensor MUST be inserted in a channel that has been calibrated for QRP before you can get accurate readings on a QRP scale; and

(2) Did NOT clearly indicate that simply selecting the QRP scale via menu will NOT show accurate readings if the particular channel has been calibrated for 150 watts.

In summary, I found:

- (1) The hardware for the LDG-4 to be acceptable.
- (2) The information on the LDG website for ordering the appropriate configuration/calibration to be extremely poor.
- (3) The technical clarity of the information supplied with the LDG-4 to be poor.
- (4) The policy of LDG to NOT calibrate an unused channel for HF QRP sensitivity as a standard feature to be a production shortcut which greatly reduced the out-of-the-box utility of this device.

73,

Mike / KK5F

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 13:31:18 -0500
From: "Chuck Carpenter" <w5usj@globeco.net>
To: "Richard Brummer, K2JQ" <k2jq@bestweb.net>, qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [99082] Re: Grid Square Accuracy
Message-ID: <3.0.2.32.20010529133118.0081c5f0@mail.globeco.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hi Richard,

The coordinates on QRZ are from my GPS 300 at my QTH. QRZ is the only one I've been able to correct. I just tried, again, to update Buckmaster with the same coordinates I used with QRZ and still come up with EM22bw which is the post office subgrid when I did it from topographic maps. Interesting!

I haven't gone to the post office with my Magellan yet but I'm about 5 miles SE of the post office and one or two sub grids away.

Chuck Carpenter, W5USJ, Point, Rains Co., TX - EM22cv, NETXQRP #1
ARCI #5422, QRP-L #1306, SOC #57, Six Club #201, SMIRK #6275
Zombie #759, RARA #3, Visit NETXQRP Web Site: <http://www.netxqrp.org>
[TMPS] Qs/131, States/40, DX /27, 3W to HF9V, Marsh Key, Codeboy Keyer

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 11:35:15 -0700
From: Bob Nielsen <nielsen@oz.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [99083] Re: WTCPT

Message-ID: <20010529113515.B16951@oz.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Disposition: inline

On Tue, May 29, 2001 at 05:02:56PM +0000, Brad Hernlem wrote:

> On the subject of soldering stations, I have a few questions:

>

> 1 - Anyone use a Xytronic station? What are your thoughts in comparison to
> the Weller WTCPT or WES50? I have used the Xytronic and find it very easy to
> manipulate but don't have any experience with the Weller stations. I was
> suckered by Radio Shack's digital station special and am still tearing out
> my hair. I need something that works well.

>

> 2 - The biggest problem with that "special" station that I have, apart from
> the iron being too long and unwieldy, is that the tips don't wet worth a
> darn. They look to be simply straight shank tips with a 3/16" dia. Could one
> of you Weller afficianados tell me whether Weller tips meet that
> description? At the very least I could perhaps solve my tip problem.

I have been using a Xytronic station for about two years. I'm fairly satisfied with it, but once I left it on for a few days at a high setting and the tip would never take solder after that. I bought a replacement tip and it has held up pretty well.

Bob

--

Bob Nielsen, N7XY
Bainbridge Island, WA
IOTA NA-065, USI WA-028S

nielsen@oz.net
<http://www.oz.net/~nielsen>

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 14:32:19 -0400
From: "Lofstead, Jerry" <Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99084] RE: Sources for solar panels/cells
Message-ID: <078F21595FA7D411B87B00805FA728E64A47DE@atlexc02ntms.h boc.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Fran,

You have a couple of things wrong.. most right. A Sealed Lead Acid (SLA) battery is what is commonly called a "Gel Cell" the name comes from the

gelled sulphuric acid electrolyte. The other Lead Acid cell is the flooded cell which is the common car battery type. Gel Cell is a trade name used to describe the SLA variety of batteries. The charge information is correct, to a point. Batteries can be left on charge at 14.6 VDC for up to 48 hours with no resulting damage. However, they do get hot to the touch and will loose water if left on continuously. The float voltage should 13.6 VDC for standby applications (UPS's) or 13.8 for cyclic uses. No sulfation will take place under these conditions other than normal cell deterioration. The battery will attain full charge at these voltages. Whether you are using pocket sized 2 AH batteries or 200 AH batteries the same charge requirements must be followed. The same formulas are used. One thing to NEVER FORGET!! is these small packages can crank out tremendous current for a short time. DO NOT get a screwdriver a cross the terminals.

Jerry
W3CDE

-----Original Message-----

From: Fran Flynn [mailto:fflynn@adelphia.net]
Sent: Friday, May 25, 2001 9:57 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Re: Sources for solar pannels/cells

I've been reading up on proper charging methods for SLA's, which are not the same as gellcells. While both are lead acid, the intended application and charging methods are a little different. I managed to get a few SLA (sealed lead acid) batteries. Some are 7 AH and some are 17AH. The right way to charge these is with a constant voltage but current limited supply. The recommended charge rate is .15 to .2C, "C" being the amp hour rating, so a 7 AH if charged at .2C gets about 1.4 amps at a constant voltage of 14.7 volts, until the battery reaches that voltage across it's terminals and the current decreases to a small value of about .01C. The current limiting will mean the voltage will be lower than 14.7 untill fully charged. At this point it's considered to be fully charged. If this voltage is maintained, it will dry up the electrolyte. In order to avoid damage to the battery, at this point a "smart" charger would switch into "float" mode and provide the 12 volt battery with 13.8 volts to maintain it in a charged state. If you don't have a smart charger, just pull the battery off the charger. Leaving it charging at 14.7 or so volts will damage the battery. Another consideration is that the 14.7 volts only applies at about 68 degrees F, this voltage will vary with temperature. If you charge the battery indoors I think you can safely not worry about this, but if the temp is considerably higher or lower this must be compensated for.

This web page explains it nicely:

<http://www.cidonline.com/charge.html>

So, you see that charging at 13.8 volts may not fully charge or may shorten the life of the battery. The plates may become sulfated at this voltage.

We will be using SLA's and solar panels for FD this year, so I am designing a charger that will charge a 12 volt battery from 12 volts. It includes a voltage doubler. This way we can charge from a car battery if we need to. I'll put the details of this charger on the web when it's completed. It's a fairly simple design even with the doubler. The doubler is just a 555 and pair of transistors for current amplification, then a LM317 voltage (and current) reg.

My charger is intended for 7 AH batteries. You could use it on a bigger one, it would just take longer.

I call it a dumb charger, since there is no float mode (therefore not 'smart'). With this and any luck at all we won't run out of power for N1QS field day.

N1QS is the call for NVQS, Northern Vermont Qrp Society in (you guessed it)

Northern Vermont! Look for us on FD.

There is also a good charger design in the May 2001 QST page 43. It's suggested reading.

72 -Fran Km1z

Subject: [98891] Re: Sources for solar pannels/cells
Message-ID: <003701c0e529\$dc913ea0\$dacf16c6@oemcomputer>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Along those lines..I picked up a SLA (Sealed Lead Acid - Gel Cell) battery,

13.8 volts rated at 33ah. Any suggests on how to safely charge it without frying it? I'd like to keep a float charge on it while its in the shack just so its ready at all times. The ARRL handbook suggests that you can use a 13.8 volt power supply to charge it..but must be careful with the charging current.

Can someone point me in the right direction to build up a good charger for it and also any rules I should follow to ensure a long life of use?

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 14:57:37 -0400
From: "Bill Acito" <w1pa@hotmail.com>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99085] Current rating of a banana plug?
Message-ID: <0E164aJ6pkNzPZrIkyP00004fcc@hotmail.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well sort of...

Also known as 5-way plugs, what is an advisable current max for using the 5 way plug in banana plug mode (not spade lugs under the knobs, not pigtails into the holes... I would assume these could handle more)

Picture: using one of these...
<http://www.radioshack.com/product.asp?catalog%5Fname=CTLG&category%5Fname=CTLG%5F005%5F003%5F003%5F000&product%5Fid=910%2D4795>

Bill
W1PA

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 14:58:55 -0400
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: <kd5ckp@yahoo.com>, "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99086] Re: WTCPS - simple question
Message-ID: <004901c0e871\$8357ed20\$0600a8c0@dad>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well, tips are in the RadioShack.com flyer which just arrived today...

But, I got my last few from a place called Contact East.
I think they are in Andover Mass.

Mike

> Where is a good source for tips for the WTCPS?
>
> My local RS says they no longer carry them

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 15:03:54 -0400
From: "Lofstead, Jerry" <Jerry.Lofstead@itb.mckhboc.com>
To: "'w1pa@hotmail.com'" <w1pa@hotmail.com>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
<qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99087] RE: Current rating of a banana plug?
Message-ID: <078F21595FA7D411B87B00805FA728E64A47E1@atlexc02ntms.hboc.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"

Bill,

I have yet to find a banana plug or jack at RS.com that will handle more than 5 Amps and I doubt that for any time. They are real cheap! Look for a H H Smith or equivalent good banana plug and they will carry/rated at 15 A.

Jerry
W3CDE

-----Original Message-----
From: Bill Acito [mailto:w1pa@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2001 2:58 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Current rating of a banana plug?

Well sort of...

Also known as 5-way plugs, what is an advisable current max for using

the 5 way plug in banana plug mode (not spade lugs under the knobs,
not pigtails into the holes... I would assume these could handle more)

Picture: using one of these...

<http://www.radioshack.com/product.asp?catalog%5Fname=CTLG&category%5Fname=CTLG%5F005%5F003%5F003%5F000&product%5Fid=910%2D4795>

Bill
W1PA

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 15:10:21 -0400
From: dmaliniak@penton.com
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [99088] Re: HB diode ring mixers
Message-ID: <0F1D01FC21.162F0F96-0N85256A5B.0069042D@penton.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Brad:

Check the following URL:

<http://www.qrp.pops.net/xmfr.htm>

It's got some information on diode ring mixers that's fairly generic. All ports on the mixer, in this case, are 50 ohms.

Also check Jim Kortge's home page, and particularly the 2N2/40 section, for more on diode ring mixers. It'll at least give you a look at a schematic.

72,
David, AD2A
Glen Rock, NJ

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 14:02:39 -0500
From: "Kanalz, Karl" <Karl.Kanalz@allegiancetelecom.com>
To: "'w1pa@hotmail.com'" <w1pa@hotmail.com>, Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [99089] RE: Current rating of a banana plug?
Message-ID: <E78D8A9D6762D411B5440008C791D4AA04A49B5D@dfwex03.allegiancetelecom.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

Well, Bill, there are "plugs" (the male part that is poked into a female binding post) and there are receptacles, single or dual, that accept banana plugs.

Often times, these "binding posts" (sometimes termed "5-way" and sometimes not) come in various sizes, just as do the banana plugs come in at least three sizes I know of.

MCM Electronics (see their web page at <http://www.mcmelectronics.com>) offers a dual binding post assembly made by "Cliff" -- it's available in a single "red" post, a single "black" post or a dual red&black post assembly. It's rated at 30 amperes (per post). The dual post (red and black) costs \$3.09, and uses 10-32 spindles.

"Cliff" also makes single posts (red or black) which are rated at *60 amperes* and each post costs \$3.49 in nickle plate or \$3.99 in gold plate.

No mention, however, is made of the "standard-sized" binding posts and standard-sized banana plugs that insert into these binding posts!

I think the answer to your problem is to ask Radio sNack themselves just what the current rating of their plugs and binding posts are. I have a home-made DC distribution box that I built from dual banana binding posts, and one of the pair handles the 25 amperes peak to my iCOM VHF transceiver *or* my Yaesu FT-890 h.f. rig just fine, with no apparent heating or degredation in performance. The binding posts were made, by the way, by E. F. Johnson (from many, many years ago!).

Karl K - W8TIF
McKinney, Texas

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Bill Acito [SMTP:w1pa@hotmail.com]
> Sent: Tuesday, May 29, 2001 1:58 PM
> To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
> Subject: Current rating of a banana plug?

>
> Well sort of...
>
> Also known as 5-way plugs, what is an advisable current max for using
> the 5 way plug in banana plug mode (not spade lugs under the knobs,
> not pigtails into the holes... I would assume these could handle more)
>
> Picture: using one of these...
> <http://www.radioshack.com/product.asp?catalog%5Fname=CTLG&category%5Fname=CTLG%5F005%5F003%5F003%5F000&product%5Fid=910%2D4795>
>
> Bill
> W1PA

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 12:20:43 -0700 (PDT)
From: "Robert P. Okas" <vintage@best.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [99090] MH101: Complete VFO measurements (so far) [Follow up]
Message-ID: <Pine.BSF.4.21.0105272230540.18730-100000@shell14.ba.best.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi Gang,

In my previous post, I forgot to mention a few salient details. The take-off point for frequency measurement was the junction of C3 and C2 and my Tek scope showed a 250mVp-p sinewave. The scope has a built-in frequency counter, which, IIRC, is 600 Hz low, based on zero beating an old Heathkit 100 KHz crystal calibrator against WWV. I didn't have the 8V regulator hooked up yet, so I guessed that 7.3V would be close enough. The vfo frequency *is* dependent on supply voltage.

For a nominal 7.68 MHz IF, the vfo should oscillate at 2.42 MHz with the varactor and C7 installed and the tune pot set to produce 0.0V. Since there are no trimmer caps in the design to help zero in on this frequency, your mileage may vary. Remember that capacitance decreases as the bias across the varactor is increased. My measurements are high since the MV1662 and C7 have not been installed. In the final analysis, I might install a fixed cap and a low valued trimmer for C7 so I can zero in on the bottom of the band edge.

73,
Bob - W3CD

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 12:30:38 -0700
From: "Decaire, Philip J" <Philip.Decaire@PSS.Boeing.com>
To: "'qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99091] Re: HB diode ring mixers
Message-ID: <EE7B7EF89E54794BBBE6BCDD61B86C8279627B@xch-knt-03.nw.nos.boeing.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

Brad -

Yes, its easy to build a pretty good diode ring mixer, and a dip header is a good chassis. Sounds like you've got some really nice diodes to use. I just use 1n4150s, hand matched.

Transformer inductance is generally determined by the rule of thumb: winding inductive reactance at the low frequency end should be about 5x the circuit impedance. So for 50 ohm RF and local oscillator, thats about 250 ohms inductive reactance. Unless you're running a really low frequency I'd recommend #43 material for the toroids, and 5 to 10 trifilar turns on a T37 core is appropriate. These devices cover decades of frequency so its not real critical. The downside of using a really low frequency ferrite might be excessive core loss.

A good termination impedance for most circuits we build is 50 ohms, although in an application like a product detector (IF to audio conversion) you might mismatch the audio port without any terrible consequences. Unless you're talking about a direct conversion receiver, that is, where you don't have signal to throw away. In that case, a common-base transistor stage can provide an appropriate 50 ohm input impedance and high output impedance.

You can only learn by experimenting, so give it a shot and see what happens. Its hard to argue with something that works!

Phil, WB7AEI

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 15:34:58 -0400
From: "Lau, Zack, W1VT" <zlau@arrl.org>
To: "'qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99092] Re: HB diode ring mixers
Message-ID: <125490A005E3D3118C9C00805FC743CC016B9E95@KAHLESS>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Dec 1993 QST 32 Taking The Mystery Out of Diode Double-Balanced Mixers by
Shankar Joshi

73--Zack W1VT

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 16:06:04 EDT
From: n5ib@juno.com
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.edu, RAllor@aol.com, AGN5GA@aol.com, w5xu@aol.com, w5zdw@aol.com,
pcrawford@mail.vetmed.lsu.edu, w5xv@arrl.net, gordonwayn@aol.com,
kb5wga@eatel.net, n5smq@aol.com, bobliz@mail.bellsouth.net,
ehu1592425@aol.com, w5ovv@juno.com, n5ib@juno.com, KC5ZZ@home.com,
jwsteven@telocity.com,
Subject: [99093] OPERATING - USS Kidd on Memorial Day
Message-ID: <20010529.150427.8143.0.n5ib@juno.com>

I've put a few photos from the QRP portion of the Memorial Day operations aboard the USS Kidd on my web pages <<http://www.qsl.net/n5ib>> The link is under the thumbnails in the main page.

N5ADF, Russ, and I were within a quarter wave (on 30 m), and just above, that 5 inch gun when the salute was fired.

I think the last picture link/thumbnail is messed up (thumbnail missing but link active) and I'll try to fix that soon.

An even dozen QSO's in more or less casual operation, mostly on 30 m

72
Jim N5IB

Memorial Day W5KID Log

DATE NAME	TIME, Z	STATION	FREQ	MODE	SENT	RCVD	QTH
28May01 Steve	13:50	N3YWQ	10.116	CW	569	579	greensboro, PA usa
28May01 Sandy	14:05	W0TID	10.116	CW	589	589	topeka, KS usa
28May01 Jerry	14:40	W0PWE	10.116	CW	579	579	IA USA
28May01 Paul	14:45	WQ5X	10.116	CW	559	339	grand prarie, TX usa
28May01	14:57	W8EC	10.116	CW	589	599	jacksonville, TX usa Bud
28May01	15:00	AB5ZD	10.116	CW	579	599	alexandria, LA usa Bob

28May01	15:39	W5PSC	10.116	CW	579	559	ridgeland, MS usa	Pat
28May01	15:49	W5USJ	10.116	CW	599	579	point, TX usa	
Chuck								
28May01	18:02	W3ZMN	14.060	CW	549	339	bethlehem, PA usa	
Conrad								
28May01	18:33	W3UT	10.115	CW	549	349	cumberland, MD usa	Ray
28May01	18:47	K1BMV	10.116	CW	569	579	uncasville, CT usa	Joe
28May01	19:00	K4KSR	14.061	CW	549	339	yorktown, VA usa	
Bill								

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 20:20:16 -0000
 From: "Delbert Long" <ad6we@hotmail.com>
 To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
 Subject: [99094] SMK success at last!
 Message-ID: <F179sb1i6EEqPeQ1qV900008d6a@hotmail.com>
 Mime-Version: 1.0
 Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

Finally got my first qso with the SMK-1! TNX KG6FXZ in San Luis Obispo!

Antenna was end-fed half-wave described here:

http://www.qsl.net/g3vgr/hw_ant.html

Not up very high...couldn't manage to get the end into the trees, so I just threw the wire over the top of garages in my condo complex. Flat roof only about 12 ft off the ground or so...

Not exactly DX...according to the "Calls2dist" command it was 176 mi / 283 km.

Felt like I did when I was first licensed as a Novice in 1974!

Delbert Long, AD6WE
 2111 Cheyenne Way Unit 9
 Fullerton, CA 92833-4912
 Grid Square DM13av

 Get your FREE download of MSN Explorer at <http://explorer.msn.com>

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 13:32:12 -0700 (PDT)
From: Gary Slagel <gds slagel@yahoo.com>
To: QRP L <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [99095] Help on Length for a tuned dipole
Message-ID: <20010529203212.1396.qmail@web11607.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Expert advice needed!

While on vacation next week, I'm going to put up a simple dipole for my dad so he can get on the air after a long absence. He's not sure what bands or even what mode he'll be using yet so I'm going to feed it with 300 ohm ribbon so he can tune it easily for (hopefully) whatever band he needs.

My first choice for this kind of antenna has always been 66' on a leg but I'm not sure how much room I'm gonna have yet so I might have to go shorter. He's laid up with a broken hip right now so he's not much help getting me lot dimensions, etc. I'd like to have it usable on 40 meters and up at least. Any advice on optimal lengths if I have to go shorter then 66' on a side? Should I just make it as long as I can?

Thanks,
Gary

=====

Gary Slagel/N0SXX
Conifer, CO 80433
gds slagel@yahoo.com
Personal Website: <http://marina.fortunecity.com/sanpedro/351>

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<http://auctions.yahoo.com/>

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 16:35:39 -0400
From: "Mark S. Adams, P.E." <msadams@acsu.buffalo.edu>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [99096] 2M Res Feed DP for Bike Mobile Op

Message-ID: <3311661630.991154139@oes-madams.facilities.buffalo.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

Hi Gang,

Seeing the Kurt N. Sterba article in the May 2001 World Radio reminded me that I was planning on constructing a resonant feed dipole for 2 meter bicycle mobile operations. This would be a better antenna than the center fed dipole that I have used for RACES events.

Anyway, someone recently published an article on a 2M version and I do not have it any longer. What I need to know is, did they use an air wound coax coil for a choke, or did they use a torroid, and if so, which type?

Can anyone help me on this one? This is QRP as my HT only puts out 5W :-)

72, Mark K2Q0

Mark S. Adams, P.E.
University at Buffalo
Occupational and Environmental Safety
220 Winpear Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14215-1034
Tel: 716.829.3301 Fax: 716.829.2704
Pager: 716.774.2260

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 17:02:23 -0400
From: Ed Kessler <edkess@pa.net>
To: "Eastern PA QRP Club" <epaqrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>, Donald Philbin <donaaldphilbin@hotmail.com>, Glen Leinweber <leinwebe@mcmail.cis.McMaster.CA>, James Skalski <jskalski@bellatlantic.net>, Jim Kortge K8IQY <jokortge@prodigy.net>, "K9ut-aol.com" <K9ut@aol.com>,
Subject: [99097] "Progressive Transceiver" Project
Message-ID: <5.0.2.1.0.20010529165647.00a15940@mailhost.epix.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

I've been working on a 40 Meter transceiver for quite a while. The rig is a hybrid Progressive Receiver / MFJ Cub Transmitter. Several photos and schematics can be viewed directly with the link below:

<http://www.qsl.net/aa3sj/Pages/H-40.html>

I call the project the PT40 (Progressive Transceiver 40 Meters). Neither the rig nor the web pages are complete yet. I'll be adding a few more things as I finish up the radio.

For those interested . . .

73s
Ed AA3SJ

Ed Kessler AA3SJ
950 Woodside Station Road
Millersburg, PA 17061

website: <http://www.qsl.net/aa3sj>

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 20:56:19 +0100
From: Larry Cahoon <lejek@erols.com>
To: kd5ckp@yahoo.com, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [99098] Re: Grid Square Accuracy
Message-ID: <5.0.2.1.0.20010529205400.009f0450@pop.erols.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

If you have a GPS - many of them will show the grid - you just have to pick the display. It worked out perfect for the one I worked out by hand ten years ago for the home QTH.

73 de Larry.....WD3P in MD FM18or
<http://www.qsl.net/wd3p/>

At 12:18 PM 05/29/01 -0500, you wrote:
>If you do not have access to a GPS and are familiar with the lay of
>the land around you I recommend you start here. enter your zip and
>start moving around until you find your location. The Lat/Lon is
>displayed at the bottom of the map.

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 21:18:03
From: "Leon Heller" <leon_heller@hotmail.com>
To: alihernlem@hotmail.com, qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [99099] Re: HB diode ring mixers

Message-ID: <F218vTQR19PyY41qPWx00011227@hotmail.com>

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

>>

>Getting down to my question(s), how does one go about designing the toroid
>transformers? i.e. how many turns, what is the relevance of the inherent
>inductance of the windings, and how does one know what termination
>impedance
>these things like to see?

If you forget about the diodes, the mixer is basically two back-to-back baluns or 1:4 transmission line transformers. Assuming a 50 ohm input impedance, the characteristic impedance of the winding should be $(R_p \times R_s)^{0.5}$ where R_p is the primary impedance and R_s is the secondary impedance. With $R_p = 50$ ohms and $R_s = 200$ ohms, we get 100 ohms for the characteristic impedance. This can be approximated by twisting the wires fairly tightly. At HF, it won't be very critical.

If you have a signal generator and scope, it would be a good idea to check the frequency response of your transformers, with a 200 ohm load across the secondary. Adjust the number of turns to optimise the bandwidth.

73, Leon

--

Leon Heller, G1HSM Tel: (work): +44 1327 357824 (home): +44 1327 359058

Email:leon_heller@hotmail.com My web page:

http://www.geocities.com/leon_heller IRISYS Ltd: <http://www.irisys.co.uk>

Get Your Private, Free E-mail from MSN Hotmail at <http://www.hotmail.com>.

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 21:19:57 -0000

From: "Delbert Long" <ad6we@hotmail.com>

To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [99100] re: grid square accuracy

Message-ID: <F100gC81TbdkSmLAztx00000500@hotmail.com>

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

How about the output from the qrp-l "calls2dist" command?

Delbert Long, AD6WE
2111 Cheyenne Way Unit 9
Fullerton, CA 92833-4912
Grid Square DM13av

Get your FREE download of MSN Explorer at <http://explorer.msn.com>

Date: Tue, 29 May 2001 18:22:46 -0400
From: mike <kd0ar@alltel.net>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [99101] Class D/E Website info posted.
Message-ID: <3B142136.4050BA6F@alltel.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

My preliminary findings on my Class E amplifier are located at my website, <http://www.alltel.net/~kd0ar>

Included is a description of the circuit, and a hand drawn schematic as well as some test results. I will continue to update the page as I perfect the circuit.

Results so far have been VERY promising, and I have acheived a 93% efficiency factor with this amplifier, but it still needs a little tweaking. The amp is very early in its development, and I would not recommend anyone try it for normal operation as yet. As I perfect the circuit, it should become more predictable.

I wanted to point out that the reason I have not researched the feasibility of such an amp before I began melting solder is because I wanted to apply some of what I learned at the Harris RF seminar I attended last week. I thought by designing my own amplifier would test my newly acquired knoweledge.

I have received several emails with articles on FET amplifiers, and the ones I have access to I have read. Mr. Lau pointed me to a QST article which I have here somewhere, and will look at it later this evening. Many of the amps I've seen however, do not use my clipping principle to obtain the efficiencys I'm reporting in my amplifier. I do understand this technology is not brand new, and has been around awhile, but I do

not see it in widespread QRP use at this time.

More to follow as I experiment further.

Mike, kd0ar

End of QRP-L Digest 2204

